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Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015

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Suspension for Big Buff?

The Winnipeg Jets will find out today if they will lose superstar player Dustin Byfuglien to a suspension after he cross-checked New York Rangers' JT Miller from behind during Tuesday night's game. Not having him in the lineup could mean bad things for the Jets' playoff hopes, says columnist Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson. See more on page 29. GETTY IMAGES

Teen in CFS care found assaulted

INVESTIGATION
Police say female victim in critical condition



Bernice Pontanilla
Metro | Winnipeg

A teenager who is in the care of Child and Family Services is fighting for her life, after she was seriously assaulted at a downtown parkade.

Winnipeg police said a person flagged down officers in a passing cruiser at about 4:50 a.m. Wednesday and told them about the female victim.

Police then found the teen at the Cityplace parkade.

She was taken to hospital and was said to have been in critical condition.

Police did not provide more information on the victim.

However, as the day wore on, media outlets including Metro Winnipeg learned that she was in the care of CFS and had been staying at a downtown hotel.

The girl was found with serious head injuries, according to a Metro Winnipeg source.

Late in the afternoon, Minister of Family Services Kerri Irvin-Ross held a news conference, confirming that the victim was a teenage girl under CFS care.

"I'm saddened and outraged by this cowardly attack on a vulnerable child," a visibly shaken Irvin-Ross told media.

She added that she said a prayer when she heard the news of the assault early Wednesday morning — even before learning of the CFS connection.

"It is infuriating that there are people out there that would prey upon an innocent child."

Police cordoned off the area of Hargrave Street between St. Mary and Graham avenues to rush-hour traffic and, as of Wednesday afternoon, members of the Homicide Unit were still investigating.

The police are asking anyone with information to call Crime Stoppers at 204-786-8477 (TIPS), or the Homicide Unit at 204-986-6508.

For more on the province's reaction, see page 3.

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NE0352115



Province makes promise on protecting children in care

FAMILY SERVICES

Minister vows kids won't be put in hotels after assault

Manitoba's family services minister has tearfully promised to end the practice of putting children in government care in hotels after the serious assault of a young girl.

The teen, who was found early Wednesday morning in downtown Winnipeg, was in the care of Child and Family Services.

Police are saying little about the attack, except to say the victim is in critical condition.

Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross, fighting back tears, told reporters she was shaken.

"We have a responsibility to protect children in our care and provide them with places of safety," she said.

Irvin-Ross added she's deeply troubled that this has happened to a ward of Child and Family Services.

Irvin-Ross said that by June 1, no child in care will be housed in a hotel.

She couldn't explain how the teen left the hotel or how many people might have been supervising her at the time.

The government will investigate the circumstances, but she said social workers are not able to restrain a teen who is determined to leave.

Irvin-Ross had promised in November to stop housing foster kids in hotels when 15-year-old Tina Fontaine was killed after running away from one.

"What today's tragedy does is remind us that we need to move a lot faster," she said Wednesday. "We need to set some concrete timelines."

The province is creating new emergency foster home spots and reducing its reliance on outside contract workers over two years. Hotels are a last resort, Irvin-Ross said, but the number of children in care has risen recently and there aren't enough alternatives. It takes time to build up a healthy roster of foster and group home spaces, she added.

Manitoba has around 10,000 children in care. The vast majority are aboriginal.

On any given day, dozens of those children are put up in hotel rooms because there isn't room in a foster home. There are currently nine children being housed in hotels.

Progressive Conservative critic Ian Wishart said the NDP government has had years to address this crisis. Hotels are the worst place to put a vulnerable child, he said.

"There is very little supervision," Wishart said.

"They are taking them from a medium-risk environment, in many cases, and putting them in the absolute highest-risk environment you can imagine."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Top: Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross fights tears while talking to media. Bottom: A police officer walks from the scene of the assault at the Cityplace parkade on Wednesday. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

KILDONAN-ST. PAUL

Political battle heats up

The race to replace MP Joy Smith as the Conservative candidate in Kildonan-St. Paul is shaping up into a battle between a city councillor and a former Winnipeg Blue Bombers executive.

Earlier this week, North Kildonan Coun. Jeff Browaty confirmed speculation he'd run for the nomination.

He'll be lining up against former Bomber president and CEO Jim Bell, who has the backing of both Smith and Springfield MLA Ron Schukler.

Bell worked with the Bombers from 2002 to 2014, and played a prominent role in leading the team through its move into Investors Group Field.

"To serve the community through that platform was a tremendous experience, and I believe I can translate that into the political arena," he said.

For his part, Browaty said it's "always good for the party" to have a nomination race, as it drives membership and volunteer numbers.

He also praised Smith for her contributions to federal politics, but the outgoing MP wasn't quite as complimentary in return.

"I've had very little interaction with Jeff Browaty in the time he's been a councillor," she said. "Jeff is gradually getting his experience at city hall, but we're talking about the qualities that need to be there for a member of Parliament." COLIN FAST/FOR METRO

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EDUCATION PROTESTERS STAND FIRM TO STOP CUTS Students and staff at the University of Manitoba protested Wednesday over proposed job cuts at the Fort Garry campus. COURTESY ZACH FLEISHER

City unleashes the Giant Destroyer

PEST CONTROL

Parks change to safer method of annihilating the ground squirrel



Colin Fast
Metro | Winnipeg

The city is switching up its rodent-control strategy this summer, replacing poison pellets with a gas bomb called the "Giant Destroyer."

While the ominously named device sounds like it could have been invented by the grounds-keeper in the movie *Caddyshack*, city officials say it's actually a safe method of controlling the massive population of ground squirrels that plague city parks.

Crews will light up the fire-cracker-sized cartridges and place them directly inside squirrel holes. A noxious combination of sulphur and sodium-nitrate gas will asphyxiate the animals



City manager of parks Dave Domke says ground squirrel holes are a hazard for people and pets. COLIN FAST/FOR METRO

in their underground burrows.

Dave Domke, the city's manager of parks and open spaces, said the gas bombs will reduce the risk of pets or other wildlife accidentally consuming any poison.

"It just dissipates into the atmosphere and causes no harm to anyone," he explained.

The city actively monitors about 30 parks for ground-squirrel activity. Domke said the Giant Destroyer will be used at about a half-dozen locations, including

Little Mountain Park, Optimist Park, John Blumberg Park and Westview Park (Garbage Hill).

Signs will be posted 24 hours before and after any rodent-control operation.

While some people may wonder why the city can't leave the squirrels alone, Domke said his department is responding to public-safety concerns.

"We do get complaints about sprains and strains among people and dogs who step in squirrel holes," he said.



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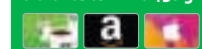


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Local stoplights are not going to be blue. ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Don't be blue, sports fans

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Did you fall for our joke?


Elisha Dacey
Metro | Winnipeg

No, the mayor is not turning all the traffic stoplights blue in honour of our local sports teams.

While we had hoped we'd fool a couple of people with yesterday's April Fool's Joke — which was entirely Mayor Brian Bowman's idea, by the way — we were surprised by how many we did fool.

Radio host Phil Aubrey tweeted he fell for the trick. "I fell hook, line and sinker," he said. "I suggested we go to the phones on the topic. Well done!"

"Okay, @metrowinnipeg,

you got me!" tweeted communications professional Britany May. "I was all, 'BLUE TRAFFIC LIGHTS?!?! We're all going to die!'"

Even Councillor Janice Lukes admitted she fell for the prank at first, saying she couldn't figure out how Mayor Bowman got city administration to agree to the switch.

And one person told us he overheard a woman ranting about the story in a local

coffee shop, very upset about the whole thing.

Still, many others did figure it out right away, and some even played along, like local photographer Ian McCausland. "I'm all for this!" he tweeted, tongue planted firmly in cheek.

"It's part of a bigger vision that #Winnipeg needs to believe in today."

To be fair ... we actually kind of like the idea.

THE BOOK OF MORMON

Broadway musical breaks record


Bernice Pontanilla
Metro | Winnipeg

The Book of Mormon's run in Winnipeg broke a house record at the Centennial Concert Hall, grossing more than \$1.4 million.

Broadway Across Canada, which brought the winner of nine Tony Awards and a popular attraction on Broadway in New York to the Manitoba capital, said in an email to Metro that the musical's one-week engagement last month also generated nearly \$5 million in spending for the Winnipeg economy.

Marina R. James, president and CEO of Economic Development Winnipeg Inc., said the impact of international shows like The Book of Mormon "is about more than mere economics."

"The Centennial Concert Hall's record-breaking week serves as the most recent validation that creative ideas continue to be appreciated by our artistically savvy community, and that creative industries captained by innovative leaders can thrive right here in Winnipeg, rightly dubbed the 'Cultural Cradle of Canada,'" said James in a press release.

According to Broadway Across Canada, the national tours of The Book of Mormon have broken 80 house records in 43 venues across the country.

At New York's Broadway venue Eugene O'Neill Theatre, The Book of Mormon has broken the house record 49 times. The Book of Mormon is a religious satire that was created by Trey Parker and Matt Stone of South Park fame, and Robert Lopez.



The Book of Mormon Touring company show broke box office records at the Centennial Concert Hall. CONTRIBUTED

CRIME

Mounties dismantle national prostitution ring

The RCMP says it has broken up a Canada-wide prostitution ring that allegedly smuggled as many as 500 Asian women into the country over an unspecified period.

Federal authorities announced today they've broken up two major cells of the network in the last five days and arrested six people in the greater Montreal and Toronto areas. The accused are allegedly part of an Asian-based organized

crime ring that operated in Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. They face a host of charges including procuring, procuring minors, advertising sexual services and gaining a material benefit from sexual services. Police say the alleged victims, mainly from Korea and China, received assistance from a criminal organization to enter the country and were then controlled and exploited by the prostitution ring.

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BROADWAY

Angled light poles fix confusing turn

The city's traffic department has found success with a slight change to light standards on one of Winnipeg's most important streets: Broadway.

Stephen Chapman, traffic-management engineer for the City of Winnipeg's public-works department, said they'd received complaints from drivers going westbound on Broadway who wanted to turn left onto southbound Donald Street.

Chapman said the main difficulty they were having at that intersection was the wide median on Broadway.

Drivers making that turn into that median area would get stuck there because the "signal that was there previously and is still there on the north side of the median, it's almost behind the driver."

"What was happening is people behind can see that the arrow has come up, but the drivers can't see that," he said. Some drivers were also

+ SOLUTION

Stephen Chapman, traffic-management engineer for the City of Winnipeg's public-works department, said the new light standards were installed last summer.

He said getting the angle just right was a challenge for his staff.

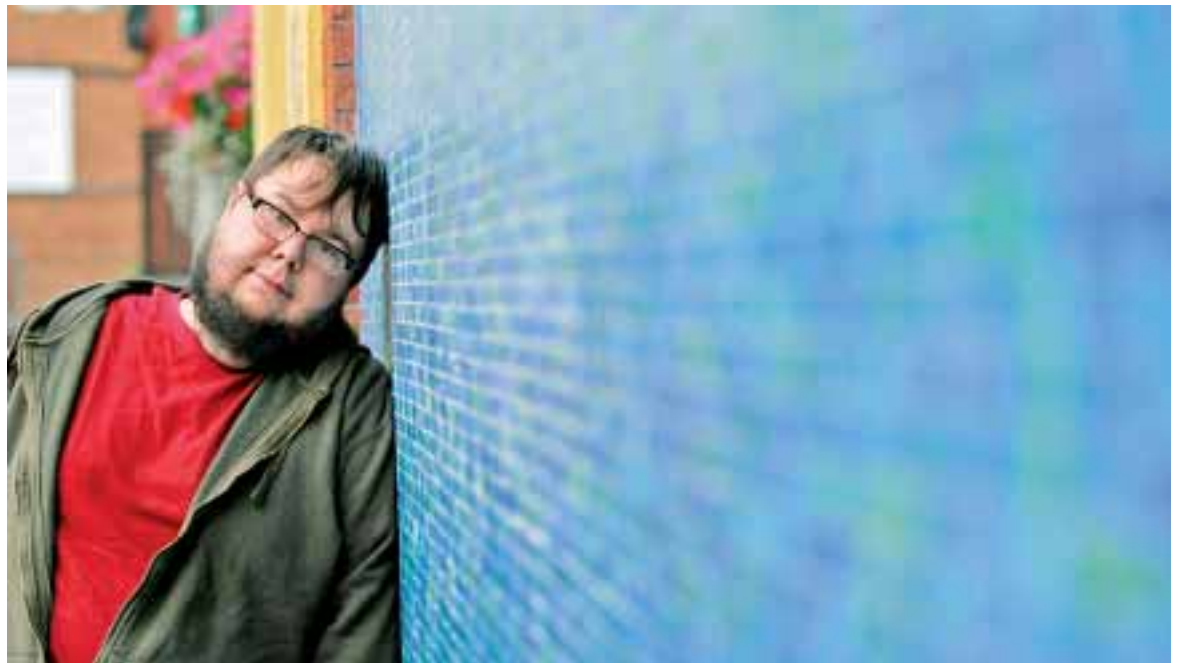
confused because once they were in that median space, they thought they had the red light meant for the southbound Donald traffic.

"They see that as red and they stop, and then they sit there until it turns green. In the meantime, there's gaps in the traffic coming eastbound (Broadway) that they could have taken advantage of, but they don't 'cause they think they're at a red light."

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO



Driver confusion at Broadway and Donald resulted in the installation of angled light standards. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO



Canadian spoken-word artist Shane Koyczan will perform Sunday at the West End Cultural Centre. COURTESY KILLBEAT MUSIC

Artist aims to return poetry to the people

PERFORMANCE

Shane Koyczan hunts for open minds waiting in Winnipeg

Nigel Moore
For Metro | Winnipeg

Poetry scares off a lot of people. That could be a problem for Penticton, B.C., spoken-word artist Shane Koyczan, but he doesn't see it that way.

Koyczan exploded onto the world stage during the

opening ceremonies of the Vancouver Winter Olympics, impressing millions with his poetry. As he prepares to bring his Silence Is a Song I Know All the Words To solo tour to Winnipeg, he argued the word "poetry" itself is loaded.

"When people hear just the word, they run screaming in the other direction," said Koyczan. "It's not that poetry they read in school wasn't beautiful and inspiring, it's just that a lot of the vernacular and the lexicon and the vocabulary were outdated."

People will read a poem and they won't understand what it's about or how it applies to them, said Koyczan.



That's what I love about spoken word: It's not just poetry, it's not just storytelling and it's not just comedy — it uses all of those

Spoken-word artist Shane Koyczan

"Now, you're seeing poets who are turning that on its head and repopularizing the art form," he said.

Koyczan is among those artists who reward an open mind.

"I'm constantly looking for new ways to expose people to the art form," he said.

One of the beautiful things about spoken word is that it's so malleable, said Koyczan.

"Every one of my shows is

different. I have pieces that I do, but they change from night to night. That's what I love about spoken word: It's not just poetry, it's not just storytelling and it's not just comedy — it uses all of those elements."

Koyczan performs Sunday at the West End Cultural Centre. Tickets are \$22.50 at Ticketmaster and the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Comedian had to start over after losing memory of act



Jared Story
Metro | Winnipeg

Some comedians, like Louis C.K., throw away their old material out of principle. Mike MacDonald couldn't remember his.

After his liver transplant surgery in March 2013, the result of a 2011 hepatitis C diagnosis, the Ottawa comedian couldn't recall a word of the act that made him one of the most revered comics in Canada.

"Thank God the new stuff — I think about 80 per cent of it — worked right away," says 60-year-old MacDonald.

"Thank God, because that's all I could remember. I had to go back to files and look over stuff to learn it again. But the

nice thing about that is I'm reading a file and I laugh out loud, realizing 'Oh, that's my joke. I can do that again.'"

However, finding the funny took time. For six months after his surgery, MacDonald, who has bipolar disorder, was depressed and contemplated suicide, even spending some time in a psychiatric ward.

Eventually, MacDonald was able to turn tragedy into comedy, working out his new material at open mics around Ottawa.

He says being honest about his mental health issues has always been a no-brainer, even against the advice of agents and managers.

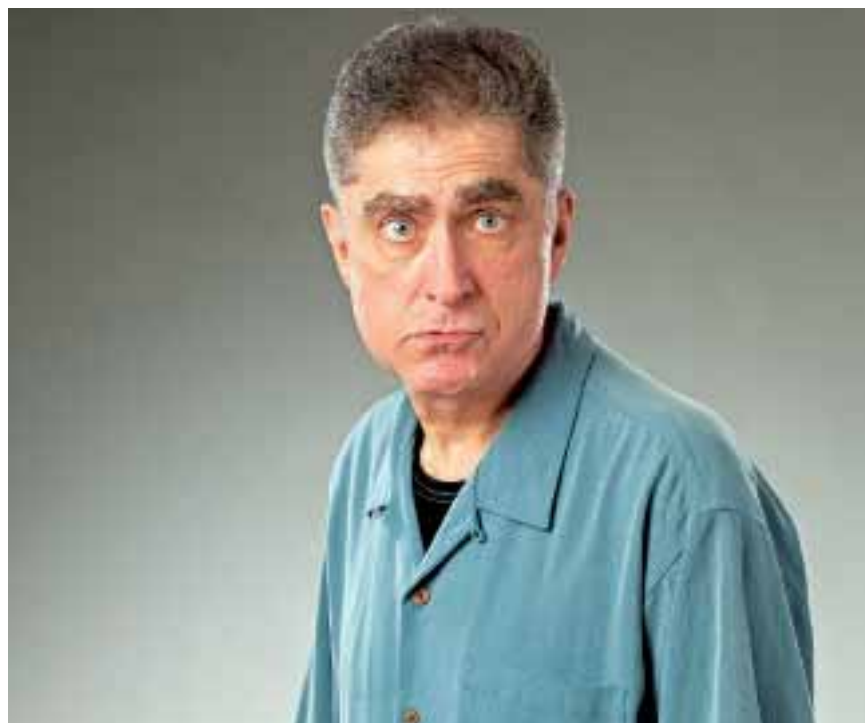
"I've always had the attitude of playing the cards I've been dealt," MacDonald says. "It's the old adage 'Talk about what

you know.' Well, what I know are three basic things: addiction, mental health and the liver transplant. I talk about those three things freely. My attitude has always been if someone is not going to hire me because of any of those three reasons then they're probably not the kind of people I want to work for in the first place."

His openness is appreciated. When MacDonald was too ill to work, he received a huge outpouring of support from fans and friends. Many clubs, like Rumor's Restaurant & Comedy Club here in Winnipeg, held fundraisers for him.

"My manager pointed it out succinctly to me. He said, 'Most people have to die before they get this kind of response. You're very lucky. You're still alive and you get to hear about how people like you.'"

Catch Mike MacDonald at the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. He performs at Rumor's Comedy Club on April 6 at 7:45 p.m. and the Club Regent Event Centre on April 7 at 8 p.m. The latter show is a fundraiser for the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba.



Ottawa's Mike MacDonald is in town for two shows at this year's Winnipeg Comedy Festival. He focuses on what he knows: addiction, mental health and a recent transplant. COUVRETTE/OTTAWA

+ TICKETS

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'It's Canadian first'

JOBS

Clock runs out for thousands of temporary foreign workers

Mario Reyes choked back tears on Wednesday while discussing his last-ditch attempt to remain in Canada as the clock ran out for thousands of temporary foreign workers like him whose work permits have expired.

Reyes, who came to Canada from the Philippines seven years ago, has been working at a Minit Lube franchise in Red Deer, Alta., as a temporary foreign worker. He's now facing the reality that he will soon have to return home.

"When I was in the Philippines, life was really hard for me, but when I got a chance to work here everything changed," said Reyes at his lawyer's office in Calgary.

"I was able to send my kids to school because life in the Philippines is hard. If I go back to the Philippines, my girls cannot finish their studies and it's going to break their hearts."

Reyes turns 48 later this month. His application for permanent residency, filed last November, has been rejected and his hopes of eventually becoming a Canadian citizen are in jeopardy.

"It's Canadian first; I understand," said Reyes. "It's Canadian first, but I deserve to stay. I pay my taxes, I work hard, I do not break the law. I deserve to be a Canadian or at least a permanent resident."

In 2011, the Conservative government set April 1, 2015, as the deadline for temporary foreign workers in low-skilled jobs to either become permanent residents or return home.

In Alberta alone, 10,000 temporary foreign workers have applied to stay in Canada.



Lawyer Peter Wong, left, discusses the case of Mario Reyes, right, a temporary foreign worker living in Red Deer, Alta., Wednesday in Calgary. Reyes' work permit has expired and he is faced with returning to his native Philippines. MIKE RIDEWOOD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Immigration Canada hasn't divulged the total number of workers who now must leave, but immigration and labour market experts have estimated tens of thousands are affected.

Peter Wong, Reyes' lawyer, said he represents more than 30 workers in similar circumstances.

Wong is trying to buy them some time in the hope that government officials will issue what he calls a "rare exception."

"There are lots of what I would call very desperate attempts to remain in Canada after that April 1 deadline," Wong said. "Some will work. The vast majority will not and that's the sad reality."

Vanessa Routley, a Toronto immigration lawyer, was critical of the deadline, saying it unfairly

I deserve to stay. I pay my taxes, I work hard, I do not break the law. I deserve to be a Canadian or at least a permanent resident.

Mario Reyes has lived and worked in Canada under the Temporary Foreign Workers program for seven years.

targets the lowest-paid and lowest-skilled, leaving executives and engineers unaffected.

"Rather than offering these hard workers a pathway to permanent residence where they could continue the low-skilled jobs nobody else wants, the Canadian public has been sold a line that exchanging one legion of temporary workers for another every four years is

a solution."

In Ottawa, Employment Minister Pierre Poilievre defended the government's position.

"Our policy is that Canadians should come first for Canadian jobs," Poilievre told reporters.

"The April 1st deadline has been known for a very long time and the purpose of the program is for it to be temporary. That's why they're called temporary

+ CITIZENSHIP

Several organizations, including the Canadian Federation of Independent Business and the Alberta Federation of Labour, have called for an easier path to permanent residence and eventually citizenship for temporary foreign workers, especially those employed in provinces with labour shortages.

foreign workers."

Businesses should raise wages and hire Canadians if they're struggling to fill positions, he added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MIAMI

Consul general's son shot dead

One teenage son of a Miami-based Canadian diplomat was killed and a younger son is under arrest after they were involved in an alleged drug deal that turned into a gun battle, according to police records and the diplomat's ex-husband.

Germano Wabafiyebazu said Wednesday his 17-year-old son, Jean, was killed when he went into a house to buy marijuana, and that police arrested his 15-year-old son.

Wabafiyebazu was formerly married to the boys' mother, Canadian consul general Roxanne Dubé.

The Miami Police Department would not comment on the shootings. The Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office confirmed that another man, 19-year-old Anthony Rodriguez, was charged with second-degree murder and marijuana possession with intent to sell for his alleged role.

The Rodriguez arrest report says a second man was shot to death inside the house, but he was not identified.

The police report also quotes unidentified witnesses as saying Rodriguez brought two pounds of marijuana to the house and began to negotiate.

In addition, the 15-year-old faces charges of threatening a police officer while in custody, according to a separate police report. That report also briefly refers to a gunfight in which Jean Wabafiyebazu was killed.

Germano Wabafiyebazu said his sons borrowed their mother's personal vehicle which has diplomatic license plates, to drive to the house but told their mother they were just going for a drive. He said he was told that his 15-year-old son rushed into the house after hearing a gunshot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Senator Nancy Ruth speaks at a news conference in Ottawa on Dec. 16, 2010. Ruth is miffed that she's being asked to justify claiming a meal expense while travelling when she could have eaten a free airline breakfast. SEAN KILPATRICK / THE CANADIAN PRESS

Senator displeased with audit process

POLITICS

Nancy Ruth says most questions too unsophisticated

Conservative Sen. Nancy Ruth appears to have little faith in the ability of the auditor general to figure out whether she and her colleagues were inappropriately billing taxpayers for expenses.

"Most of their questions were not very sophisticated, nor do they really have anything to do with Senate business," she told reporters Wednesday morning about her experience having employees for the federal watchdog comb through her travel expense claims as part of a large-scale forensic investigation into Senate reimbursements.

"There are a couple of times when my assistant put in for a breakfast when I was on a plane and they say I should not claim because I should have eaten that breakfast. Well, those (free) breakfasts are pretty awful. If you want ice-cold Camembert with broken crackers ..." Nancy Ruth said.

"I just don't think they understand anything of what it's like to fly around the world to get here. They just don't know," she said.

The Conservative senator for Ontario was responding to a report by CTV News Tuesday night that dozens of senators have received letters from the Office of the Auditor General asking them to account for questionable claims.

A source confirmed to Torstar News Service on Wednesday that at least 44 senators have received such letters and that one of them is former Liberal senator Rose-Marie Losier-Cool, who was asked to explain some \$100,000 in claims.

CTV News also said at least one senator has already paid back a claim flagged by auditors.

N D P M P

Charlie Angus, the ethics critic for his party, dismissed the notion that the auditor general is being too strict by questioning senators over why they claimed per diems for meals they could have eaten free on airplanes as well as at receptions and other Senate-related gatherings.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Those (free) breakfasts are pretty awful ...

Senator Nancy Ruth

IN BRIEF

Quebec to continue to support Badawi despite ambassador's criticism

Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Canada is telling Quebec politicians his government won't accept meddling in its internal affairs in response to the case of a jailed blogger.

The ambassador sent a letter addressed to the Speaker of the national assembly regarding Raif Badawi, saying his government expresses "its strong surprise and dismay" at what is being said and written about the case.

The March 10 letter was also sent to the federal gov-

ernment and is critical of attacks by media and international agencies on Saudi Arabia's human rights record.

"(The kingdom) does not accept any form of interference in its internal affairs and rejects the encroachment on its sovereign right or the compromising of its judiciary independence and integrity," writes Naif Bin Bandir AlSudairy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fahmy shocked at Ottawa's refusal to issue passport

A Canadian journalist on trial in Egypt on widely de-

nounced terror charges expressed shock and anger Wednesday over Ottawa's refusal to issue him a passport while he awaits the outcome of his case. Mohamed Fahmy, who spent more than a year in a Cairo prison, has been trying to acquire a new passport ever since being released on bail in February.

"I am crippled and it's becoming a security threat that I'm walking around with no Canadian passport," he said in an interview from Cairo. "I don't know what to do anymore."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NE035G115

IN BRIEF**France recovers remains from Alps crash; families must wait to get them**

Just over a week after a Germanwings plane crashed into the French Alps, investigators have finished retrieving human remains from the crash site and are now trying to match them with DNA profiles from the 150 people killed — an arduous task that could leave families waiting for months.

The extraordinary recovery process mobilized hundreds of people and cut a stony road into a forested Alpine mountainside to help the team bring back anything they found, from a body part to a tiny shred of skin. Not a single intact body was found.

While the retrieval of DNA from the body parts may be completed as early as this week, it will take two to four months to match the samples with the victims' DNA profiles, said Francois Daoust, head of the France's IRCGN national criminal laboratory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emirates, Etihad Airways jetliners get too close

Jetliners from the United Arab Emirates' two main airlines apparently got too close to each other over the Indian Ocean this week.

One of the carriers involved, Dubai-based Emirates, called it an "air-traffic control incident" in a statement Wednesday. Neither it nor Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways would say how close the two planes came to each other.

Emirates says its flight EK709 was returning from the Indian Ocean island nation of Seychelles when the incident occurred Sunday in airspace controlled from Mumbai, India.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



YEMEN SAUDI-LED AIRSTRIKES TARGET SHIITE REBELS ACROSS YEMEN; 35 WORKERS KILLED A Houthis Shiite rebel carries his weapon as he joins others in Sanaa, Yemen, on Wednesday to protest against Saudi-led airstrikes. Saudi-led coalition warplanes bombed Shiite rebel positions in both north and south Yemen early Wednesday, setting off explosions and drawing return fire from anti-aircraft guns. HANI MOHAMMED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fire engulfs Mexican oil rig; 4 people dead

DISASTER

No evidence yet of major spill, says Pemex

A massive ball of flames engulfed an oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday, killing four people and sending terrified workers jumping into the sea.

State-run oil company Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, said there was no evidence yet of a major oil spill following the blast, which injured 16

workers, two seriously, and forced the evacuation of 300.

Fleets of helicopters ferried workers with bandaged hands and faces and burn marks on their overalls to the nearby city of Ciudad del Carmen, where crowds of concerned relatives thronged outside hospitals.

A survivor of the blaze on the shallow-water Abkatun Permanente platform in the Campeche Sound said workers "jumped into the sea out of desperation and panic."

"There was nothing you could do but run," said Roger Arias Sanchez, an employee of

Pemex contractor Cotemar who escaped the burning platform in an evacuation boat.

Eight firefighting boats were trying to extinguish the fire, said Pemex. Mexico's Energy Security Agency said the fire "is being extinguished."

President Enrique Pena Nieto said the causes of the accident are under investigation.

Pena said he had issued orders "to carry out the appropriate investigations to find whoever is responsible, but above all, to avoid this type of accident in the future."

On its Twitter account Wed-

nesday afternoon, Pemex raised the death toll from one to four. Many of the injured appeared to be Cotemar employees.

Pemex's media office said it was unclear whether any significant amount of oil had spilled from the Abkatun Permanente platform, which largely serves to separate gas, oil and other petroleum products and pump them to refineries onshore.

Previous spills from Mexican facilities had usually occurred at active offshore wells, not processing stations such as Abkatun. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL

Iraq declares victory in Tikrit

The Iraqi government on Wednesday declared victory in Tikrit over ISIL extremists and warned the militants holding other provinces that they would be the next to fall.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi walked triumphantly along a street in Tikrit, carrying an Iraqi flag and surrounded by jubilant forces.

Across the border in Syria, however, ISIL fighters made their deepest foray yet into the capital of Damascus by infiltrating a Palestinian refugee camp, according to opposition activists and Palestinian officials.

Iraq's victory over the extremists in Tikrit was seen as a key step toward eventually driving the militants out of Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city and the capital of Nineveh province.

Defence Minister Khalid al-Obeidi announced the victory, saying security forces have "accomplished their mission" in the month-long offensive to rid Saddam Hussein's hometown and the broader Salahuddin province of the militant group.

"We have the pleasure, with all our pride, to announce the good news of a magnificent victory," Obeidi said in a video statement. He named the other Iraqi provinces still being held by ISIL militants.

"Here we come to you, Anbar! Here we come to you, Nineveh, and we say it with full resolution, confidence and persistence," he said.

Al-Abadi said that military engineering units still need more time to clear Tikrit of booby traps and looked to the next steps for the city and province.

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U.S. trial will focus on online bullying of girl, 15

SAN JOSE, CALIF.

Opening statements expected to start next week

A 15-year-old girl committed suicide a week after three classmates photographed themselves sexually assaulting her at a 2012 party, petrified the boys would circulate the photos online and believing gossip about her was spreading widely.

Audrie Pott's story has captivated those concerned with teen bullying, which appears to be on the rise with the help of smartphones and social media but rarely ends in suicide.

A wrongful-death trial this month in San Jose, Calif., will determine whether bullying played a role in the girl's death. Lawyers were to argue Wednesday over what evidence the jury will hear, while opening statements are expected to start next week.

The three boys, now high-school seniors, and other teens are expected to deliver uncomfortable and emotional testimony about the party where Audrie was sexually assaulted after passing out drunk and other events leading up to her death.

Parry Aftab, a digital-privacy lawyer, said Audrie's death likely will be discussed at an



Sheila Pott with a portrait of her daughter Audrie in Los Altos, Calif. MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ, FILE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

international anti-bullying conference in Ireland in May that she's helping organize.

"Depending on what the jury decides, the kids will look at this and see there may be consequences," Aftab said.

Audrie's parents say the assault and fear of online ridicule caused her death and they

have pursued a wrongful-death lawsuit against the boys, their families and others for three years that will culminate with the three-week trial.

Her parents say they want to hold the boys responsible and call attention to bullying, social-media shaming and teen suicide. One of the three teens told attorneys that in the weeks before Audrie's death, the trio swapped racy selfies of girls they badgered into taking the photos.

That boy and his family recently apologized to the Pott family and settled their portion of the case for an amount of

money a judge has ordered be kept confidential. But the other two teens insist they weren't responsible for Audrie's death.

The Pott family's lawyer said that the "majority" of proceeds from the lawsuit will be donated to the Audrie Pott Foundation and used to lobby for anti-bullying laws.

Lawyers for the other two boys say Audrie's suicide was tragic and sad, but not the teens' fault.

They argue in court filings that "poor parenting" and other factors led to her death. Audrie's parents are divorced, and the boys' lawyers say the

girl's relationship with her family played a big role in her suicide.

A man claiming to be her biological father contacted Audrie when she was in eighth grade, causing emotional turmoil that remained unresolved when she died, the lawyers say. They also claim Audrie was deeply upset about a split with her best friend, who accused Audrie of lying, drinking and being a "bad friend."

The family's attorney, dismisses those claims as a "smear campaign" to distract from the root cause of Audrie's suicide.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Egypt, Nigeria led world in 2014 death sentences

Egypt and Nigeria accounted for well over 1,000 of the death sentences announced last year, more than a third of the world's total, Amnesty International says in its latest annual report on the death penalty. The human-rights group expressed alarm at the 28 per cent jump in death sentences: 2,466 people in 55 countries were condemned to death in 2014. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Nigerian president vows to hunt Boko Haram

Nigerians celebrated Muhammadu Buhari's victory in presidential elections Wednesday, but sobering challenges confront their new leader. From an Islamic uprising to widespread poverty, Buhari, 72, made history in Africa's most populous country as the first opposition candidate to win elections, defeating President Goodluck Jonathan. Buhari warned Boko Haram insurgents he'd be coming after them. Boko Haram aims to establish a caliphate and turn Nigeria into an Islamic state, and has killed thousands of civilians and carried out kidnappings but has been hit hard in recent weeks by troops from Nigeria and allied forces from neighbouring Chad, Cameroon and Niger. The bespectacled president-elect also warned that corruption would not be tolerated after he takes office on May 29. As Nigeria's leader three decades ago, he returned looted state assets. His regime executed drug dealers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“ Depending on what the jury decides, the kids will look at this and see there may be consequences.”

Parry Aftab, digital-privacy lawyer

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Seven-year-old California girl gets a 3D-printed arm for \$50

TECHNOLOGY

Inexpensive choice ideal for growing youngsters

Seven-year-old Faith Lennox never thought much about putting a prosthetic limb where her left hand had once been — not until she learned she could design her own, strap it on easily and then jump on her bike and pedal away at speeds previously only imagined.

Faith firmly placed her new hand's blue and pink fingers on her bike's left handlebar and took off for a lengthy ride around the Build It Workspace in Los Alamitos, Calif., on Tuesday morning. Inside, just a short time before, that hand had rolled off a 3D printer that built it overnight.

"I don't think we'll ever get her off it," said her mother, Nicole, smiling with resignation as she watched her daughter continue to circle the parking lot in the Orange County suburb.

The prosthetic represents a breakthrough in small, lightweight hands that are economical and easy for children to use. It weighs only a pound and costs just \$50 US to construct out of the same materials used to make drones and automobile parts.

When Faith outgrows it



Faith Lennox forms a heart with her new 3D-printed hand at the Build It Workspace in Los Alamitos, Calif., on Tuesday. Her position during childbirth cut off the flow of blood to her left forearm, irreparably damaging tissue, muscle and bone. DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

in six months or a year, a replacement can be made just as cheaply and easily, said Mark Muller, a prosthetics professor at California State University, Dominguez Hills, who helped with the design. He said a heavier adult model with sensors attached to a

person's muscles would run \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Faith manipulates her hand without sensors. Instead, as she happily demonstrated after the bike ride, she moves her upper arm back and forth. That in turn opens and closes its blue and pink fingers —

"my favourite colours," she noted with a smile.

The oldest of three children, Faith had compartment syndrome when her position during childbirth cut off the flow of blood to her left forearm, irreparably damaging tissue, muscle and bone. After nine

+ THE COMPANY

Small space, big ideas

Build It Workspace teaches people to use high-tech printers, provides access to them for projects and does its own commercial printing. The small studio was founded less than a year ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

months of trying to save the limb, doctors determined they had to amputate just below the elbow.

She had tried a couple of more traditional — and more expensive — prosthetics over the years but found them bulky, heavy and hard to use.

Her parents were working with the non-profit group E-Nable to get her a 3D-printed hand, but the technology is so new there's a waiting list, her mother said. Then she learned of what Build It Workspace could do from a friend whose son visited with his Scout troop.

Although the company, founded by mechanical engineer Mark Lengsfeld, has printed everything from pumps for oil-and-gas companies to parts for drones, this was the first hand Lengsfeld and his employees had built. So he used E-Nable's open-source technology and called in Cal State, Dominguez Hills' experts for guidance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MUSIC

Tidal woos artists to join firm

Tidal, the music and video streaming service co-owned by Jay Z, Rihanna, Madonna and other artists, is inviting more performers to join the company and earn equity.

Senior executive Vania Schlogel said late Tuesday that Tidal welcomes more acts. It introduced its new co-owners at a launch event on Monday. Co-owners including Beyonce, Daft Punk, Kanye West, Jack White, Alicia Keys, members of Arcade Fire and Jason Aldean attended the launch.

Artists who join the company would earn more money through the streaming service than through others that exist, Schlogel said.

A business controlled by Jay Z bought Tidal for \$56 million US in mid-March. The streaming service, which has 540,000 subscribers, provides music and video content that users can stream on computers, tablets and smartphones or listen to offline. Subscriptions begin at \$10 US. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Faith is splintering, but it is not dying

It's Easter. So I'm going to take my day off on Friday, and I'm going to church.

I probably won't see you there.

We all know statutory holidays like Easter and Christmas are only religious historically for many Canadians. Your weekend might be more about bunnies and chocolate and ham than celebrating our risen Lord. Correction: my risen Lord.

Religion has been on a downward trend in this country, but a new study shows that the picture is far more complicated than increasingly empty pews.

Faith is splintering, but it is not dying.

While subscriptions to major religions have fallen to 30 per cent from 45 per cent in 1985, the year I was born, we also now have a majority of Canadians straddling the middle ground between belief in a traditional faith, and belief in nothing at all, according to an Angus Reid study released last week.

The 44 per cent of us who consider ourselves ambivalent about religion "consistently seem to be open not only to religious beliefs, but to a range of other non-naturalist beliefs as well, such as psychic phenomena and astrology," the study found.

The finding suggests many of us believe we "cannot live by rationality alone." Which perhaps explains the two-thirds of us who the study

found believe in an afterlife and a supreme being.

The study also showed that immigration is boosting the ranks of many Christian and non-Christian religions.

There are one million Muslims, 500,000 Hindus, and 330,000 Jews in this country, plus about 25,500 Pagans, 1,000 Rastafarians and dozens of other small faith groups, according to Statistics Canada data from 2011.

Plus the 22 million who, like me, identify as Christian.

I bet even many of these believers, like me, have what I'd call the personalized approach. For example, I believe in God, and that gay is good and the state has no place barring abortions.

Atheism might have had a pop culture moment, but with only 48,675 of us identifying as atheist, it hasn't sunk our collective sense of faith.

And I don't think it can. There seems to be something innate in humans that drives us to see life as more than this one moment, in this one day. The world seems vaster and more glorious and even more meaningful than its parts.

Belief is not something that we have learned our way out of. We appear to crave faith — in something.

So I'll take my Easter long weekend. And my Jesus in a totally non-ironic way.

And the cute bunnies and chocolate.

Live and let believe.

A lousy law

THE KOHLER REPORT

Rebecca Kohler



Earlier this week, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which, he says, "ensures that Indiana law will respect religious freedom and apply the highest level of scrutiny to any state or local governmental action that infringes on people's religious liberty."

It sounds nice, like he's just signed a law that says everyone can go to church and not be worried that the government might try to stop them.

This law is anything but nice. In layman's terms, this law says that business owners can choose not to serve customers that offend their religious beliefs. The example that's being most commonly referenced is that a Christian

business owner can refuse to serve members of the LGBTQ community because they somehow "infringe on their religious liberty."

I keep looking at the calendar to see if it really is 2015. I keep checking Google Maps to make sure Indiana is in the United States of America — Canada's close ally and neighbour. What is going on here? And why doesn't Pence have a tiny square moustache?

What made this law particularly scary was that Indiana doesn't have any statewide anti-discrimination legislation when it comes to sexual orientation.

So theoretically, it meant that in certain Indiana cities, businesses would legally be allowed to put a sign in their window saying, "No Gays."

This, of course, rings a terrible bell and one can't help but think back to those "No

Colored Allowed" signs found until just over 50 years ago in the southern U.S. Has Pence learned nothing from history?

Incidentally, if I came across any store that had any sign that said anyone was not welcome, I'd probably suffer an anger-induced bout of dyslexia and read it as, "Please throw rocks at our window."

The backlash to the law was refreshingly harsh: Connecticut announced a boycott of Indiana, the band Wilco cancelled a concert there, large business deals that involved the state were put on hold.

I couldn't help but laugh when during an interview with George Stephanopoulos, Pence called this backlash "intolerant." Yes, Mike, people are intolerant of intolerance and thank God for that — on Tuesday, Pence announced that he'd be amending the bill to make it clear that this law

was not meant to condone discrimination against the LGBTQ community.

I believe in religious freedoms and liberties. Like how the Federal Court of Canada ruled it was unlawful to force a Muslim woman, Zunera Ishaq, to remove her niqab at her citizenship ceremony. She has every right to practise her religion. But if Ishaq owned a business and refused to serve me because I was not wearing a niqab? Well, that wouldn't be cool.

While I'm glad Pence has chosen to clarify this bill, I'm sad that there's even a bill like this that needs clarifying.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler

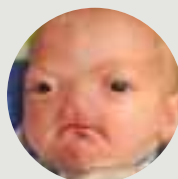
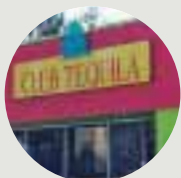
Happy face/Sad face

From **miracle babies** to **corporate tomfoolery**, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



911 is not a joke

This is not an emergency. We repeat, this is not an emergency: Police in Idaho say a man who called 911 a dozen times complaining about his bar bill is facing a \$1,000 fine and up to a year of jail time. The man allegedly made the calls after police gave him a ride home when he got kicked out of Club Tequila. The bar produced a receipt showing he was charged \$30 for the 10 beers he apparently ordered.



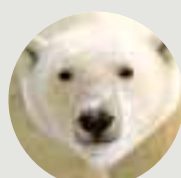
One in 97 million

Among all the amazing babies that came into the world recently, this adorable little guy deserves a special mention. Timothy Eli Thompson was born without a nose, and guess what? He's doing just fine, having left the hospital this week. In his brief time on planet Earth, he's already made 20,000 friends via his Facebook page. Best wishes to him and his family.



Bad news for bears

In some super bummer news, a study published this week says polar bears forced onto land due to melting ice probably won't find enough food to replace their diet of delicious seals. Apparently the berries, eggs and birds they find on the mainland are no caloric substitute for mammals weighing 150 to 300 pounds each, mostly blubber. The bears love the cute little guys as much as Paul McCartney does.



Rascals!

Nothing like a little skylarking. On April 1, the always hilarious Microsoft launched MS-DOS as a mobile OS, those yucksters at CERN confirmed the existence of the Force, billionaire Lululemon founder and noted comic Chip Wilson posted a building permit for his future helicopter landing pad and uproarious pranksters Netflix launched a PSA on binge-watching. To these, and all the other fools in the world, thank you for the fandango.

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COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
8pm - TICKETS: \$22
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Dan Glasswick
HEADLINER: Pete Johansson

FUNNY YOU
SHOULD ASK
Club Regent Event Centre
8pm - TICKETS: \$25
Proceeds to Mood Disorders
Association of Manitoba
HOST: Chantal Marostica
PERFORMERS: Erica
Sigurdson, Mike MacDonald,
Dot Thegman Action, Al Rae,
Adam Schwartz, Andrew
Lizotte

WCF THE UPPER DECK
King's Head Pub
10pm - TICKETS: \$10
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Ben Walker
PERFORMERS: Andy Noble,
Sterling Scott, Andrew Lizotte,
Chris Mulveydy

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8th

GASTROCOMIQUE

Fusion Grill
8pm - TICKETS: \$150
Featuring: Jazz & Big
entertainment from
Ellebe Kurt

THE WINNIEG SHOW
Club Regent Event Centre
7:30pm - TICKETS: \$20
HOST: Big Daddy Tazoo
PERFORMERS: Matt Falk,
Melanie Dahlberg, Dan Versille
Asha Alfa, Jared Story, Jordan
Welwood, Jon Ljungberg

— WCF THEATRE SERIES —
OLD ENOUGH TO
KNOW BETTER
Starring Asha Alfa
Gas Station Arts Centre
8pm - TICKETS: \$20
OPENING ACT: Wes Berg

WCF RUMOR'S
COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
8pm - TICKETS: \$12
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Mark Forward
PERFORMERS: Sean Emery,
Simon Rakoff

WCF THE UPPER DECK
King's Head Pub
11pm - TICKETS: \$10
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Bruce Clark
PERFORMERS: Sean Emery,
Asha Alfa, Cara Lytwyn, Jon
Ljungberg, Pete Johansson

THURSDAY, APRIL 9th

— WCF THEATRE SERIES —
LEFTOVERS
Starring Charlie Demers
Gas Station Arts Centre
7:00pm - TICKETS: \$15
WRITTEN BY: Charlie Demers
DIRECTED BY: Martin Youssel

T.V. DINNER
A Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries
Metropolitan
Entertainment Centre
Cocktails - 5pm
Dinner - 6pm | Show - 7pm
TICKETS:
\$40 with dinner (floor seats)
\$15 no dinner (balcony)
PERFORMERS: Wes Berg,
Stephen Sun, Ryan Belleville,
Kevin McDonald, Tricia Cooper
MUSICIANS: DJ Humintitt

MANITOBA LIQUOR &
LOTTERIES PRESENT
THURSDAY GALA
Pantages Playhouse Theatre
7:45pm - TICKETS: \$15
THEME: Post and Relativity
HOST: Jeremy Ditz
PERFORMERS: Mark
Forward, Ivan Decker, Tanyaka
Davis, Tim Hobbett, Elhanka
Nadopoulos, Sterling Scott,
Asha Alfa, John Wing

WCF RUMOR'S
COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
8pm - TICKETS: \$22
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Ben Walker
HEADLINER: David Pryde

UNCORKED
Starring Dot Thegman Action
with performances by Backs,
Stephen Sun, Kevin McDonald
& Wes Berg
Gas Station Arts Centre
9:30pm - TICKETS: \$18

WCF AFTER DARK
Metropolitan
Entertainment Centre
10:30pm - TICKETS: \$22
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Shannon Lavery
PERFORMERS: Erica
Sigurdson, Tim Natt, Pete
Johansson, Tyler Morrison,
Derek Seguin, Darryl Michael,
Chris Molnar-John

FRIDAY, APRIL 10th

MANITOBA LIQUOR &
LOTTERIES PRESENT
FRIDAY EARLY GALA
Pantages Playhouse Theatre
6:45pm - TICKETS: \$15
THEME: Fish Out of Water
HOST: Ryan Belleville
PERFORMERS: Darryl Orr,
Danish Arrwar, Caitlin Langille,
Derek Edwards, Sean Emery,
Rebecca Kohler, Tyler Penner

— WCF THEATRE SERIES —
“HAI”
Starring Wes Berg
Gas Station Arts Centre
7:30pm - TICKETS: \$18

WCF RUMOR'S
COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
7:45pm - TICKETS: \$15
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Dan Versille
HEADLINER: Sterling Scott

LOST IN TRANSLATION, PERDU EN QUOI?

Centre Cultural
Franco-Manitobain
8pm - TICKETS: \$10
PERFORMERS: Stephen Sun,
Caitlin Curtis, Chloe Freytag,
Gagné, George Gervier,
Jane Tester, Eric Plamondon,
Jane Testar
MUSICIANS: DJ Tighe

MANITOBA LIQUOR &
LOTTERIES PRESENT
FRIDAY LATE GALA
Pantages Playhouse Theatre
9:45pm - TICKETS: \$15
THEME: Too Much
Information
HOST: Shaun Majumder
PERFORMERS: D.J. Demers,
Steve Dylan, Tim Natt, Ashley
Moffatt, Shannon Lavery,
Pete Johansson, Ryan
McMahon, Jordan Welwood

PORTAGE STREET LIVE
The Good Will
8:30pm - TICKETS: \$15
HOST: Paul Rablanski
PERFORMERS: Ryan Ash,
Don Parr, Rebecca Kohler,
Derek Seguin, Sterling Scott,
Shannon Lavery, Chad Anderson
MUSICIANS: DJ Humintitt

THE NO BRO SHOW 2
Gas Station Arts Centre
9:30pm - TICKETS: \$18
HOST: Tricia Cooper
PERFORMERS: Erica
Sigurdson, Chantal Marostica,
Michelle Shaguness, Rebecca
Kohler, Caitlin Langille,
Dana Smith

WCF RUMOR'S
COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
10:30pm - TICKETS: \$15
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Matt Nightingale
PERFORMERS: Tanyaka Davis
HEADLINER: Ivan Decker

SATURDAY, APRIL 11th

CBC'S THE DEBATERS
Club Regent Event Centre
2pm - TICKETS: \$30
HOST: Steve Patterson
Wes Berg vs. Derek Seguin
Danish Arrwar vs. Rebecca Kohler
Tanyaka Davis vs. Darryl Orr
Ivan Decker vs. Pete Johansson
D.J. Demers vs. Tim Natt
Al Rae vs. Charlie Demers

MANITOBA LIQUOR &
LOTTERIES PRESENT
SATURDAY
MATINEE GALA
Pantages Playhouse Theatre
4:00pm - TICKETS: \$35
THEME: Quit Your Day Job
HOST: Henry Harris
PERFORMERS: Graham
Chitenden, Bruce Clark,
Derek Longways, Asha Kim,
Rachel Sommer, Michelle
Shaguness, Dan Taylor

MANITOBA LIQUOR &
LOTTERIES PRESENT
SATURDAY LATE GALA
Pantages Playhouse Theatre
7:45pm - TICKETS: \$35
THEME: The Middle Ages
HOST: Jessica Holmes
PERFORMERS: Erica
Sigurdson, David Pryde,
Lori Gibbs, Don Parr, Derek
Seguin, Shazia Mirza, Simon
Rakoff, Jon Ljungberg

WCF RUMOR'S
COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
7:45pm - TICKETS: \$17
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Ryan Ash
HEADLINER: D.J. Demers

— WCF THEATRE SERIES —
LEFTOVERS
Starring Charlie Demers
Gas Station Arts Centre
7:00pm - TICKETS: \$10

50 SHADES OF GAY
Park Theatre
8pm - TICKETS: \$35
HOST: Darryl Michael
Act 1: Backstage Afternoon
with Chantal Marostica
Act 2: Coming Out Solving Too
with Dot Thegman Action,
Caitlin Langille, Ashley
Moffatt, Tyra Boina

WCF RUMOR'S
COMEDY CLUB SERIES
Rumor's Comedy Club
10pm - TICKETS: \$17
(18+ event - no minors)
HOST: Matt Nightingale
HEADLINER: Steve Dylan

THE ALTERNATIVE SHOW

Park Theatre
10:30pm - TICKETS: \$15
(Adult content)
HOST: Mark Forward
PERFORMERS: Darryl Orr,
Wes Berg, Tim Gray, Dan
Hobbeson, J.D. Boman, Derek
Longways, Sean Emery,
Ashley Moffatt, Tyler Penner

SUNDAY, APRIL 12th

CBC'S THE DEBATERS
Club Regent Event Centre
2pm - TICKETS: \$30
HOST: Steve Patterson
Erica Sigurdson vs. John Wing,
Big Daddy Tazoo vs. Shazia Mirza
Paul Rablanski vs. Bruce Clark
Chantal Marostica & Amber
Daniels vs. Darryl Michael
David Pryde vs. Dean Jankinson
Ryan Belleville vs. Derek Edwards

— WCF PRESENTS —
THE MICS
Award Show plus
Blues of John Wing
Club Regent Event Centre
7pm - TICKETS: \$22
AWARDS HOSTED BY:
Simon Rakoff
MUSICAL GUEST:
George Westerholm
ROAST HOSTED BY:
Tyler Morrison
PERFORMERS: Rebecca
Kohler, Al Rae, Ryan Belleville,
Bruce Clark, Simon Rakoff,
Darryl Michael & George
Westerholm
MUSICIANS: DJ Humintitt



DESIGN: KOSKOL

DESIGN: KOSKOL & BUCHHEIM





Franchise holds Fast to formula

FURIOUS 7

Star Vin Diesel says this is the biggest F&F film ever

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



Furious 7 has already generated its share of column inches from entertainment journalists. The cast has spent the last few weeks doing the junket rounds, talking to everyone with a microphone or a notepad, generating sound bites and stories that have fed newspapers, websites and television shows.

Star Michelle Rodriguez, who plays Letty Ortiz, spoke of getting “pretty crazy” after co-star Paul Walker’s death. “I was pushing myself to feel,” she said by way of explanation of some of her tabloid-level behaviour in the last year.

Ludacris, who has played technical expert Tej Parker in four F&F films, told the Today Show, “We’re about to make history as the most successful franchise of all time.”

Vin Diesel has talked about naming his daughter after his friend and co-star Walker — “There’s no other person that I was thinking about as I was cutting this umbilical cord” — and made grand pronouncements about the



Tyrese Gibson, left, Michelle Rodriguez, Paul Walker, and Chris Ludacris in a scene from Furious 7. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

quality of his film.

“Universal is going to have the biggest movie in history with this movie,” Diesel said, likely sounding as though he’s dragging every word through sandpaper. “It will probably win best picture at the Oscars, unless the Oscars don’t want to be relevant ever.”

He’s likely only half wrong. In 2011 he made a similar award season prediction about Fast 5 and while that didn’t pan out, the movie made a fortune, grossing north of \$600 million worldwide.

He’s right to say that the new film will surely put the pedal to the metal and sell a

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

While We’re Young ★★★★★
Woman in Gold ★★★
Last Knights ★★

HOW RATING WORKS
 ★★★★★ SEE IT
 ★★★ UP TO YOU
 ★ SKIP IT

lot of popcorn. Despite so-so reviews, the Fast and Furious franchise has an EZ Pass to

the box office fast lane, grossing two billion plus dollars since racing into theatres

in 2001.

“Just because they are for the working class doesn’t mean they’re not great,” Diesel said.

F&F fans enjoy the formula, which can be broken down to essentially this: Swagger interrupted by a snappy one-liner, a wild car chase, a fight scene. Repeat.

The movies aren’t Kierkegaard, and that’s one of the reasons they haven’t run out of gas yet. Over seven entries, they’ve remained loud and proud, lowbrow and unashamed. They’re a wild celebration of muscle cars, muscle shirts and muscle heads.

Like an engorged Hot Wheels set, the films are playthings for the directors — there have been four over the run of the series — who toe the company line time after time offering up a car-crushing stew where sophisticated line readings and nuanced storytelling take a backseat to frenetic editing and in-your-face explosive action. They exist in a world where people only drink Budweiser and bastardizations like Bud Lime don’t exist. That purity of vision is the beauty of the series.

Despite the loss of Walker, you can bet Furious 7 won’t be the last movie in the series.

As long as the formula works and the money continues to come in fast and furious, Diesel and company won’t put these films in the rear-view mirror.

Fresh

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MODERN MUSIC

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Helen Mirren plays the real-life Maria Altmann in *Woman in Gold*. CONTRIBUTED/ALLIANCE

For director, Helen Mirren is a woman as good as gold

WOMAN IN GOLD

Simon Curtis says the actress was a crucial part of new film



Richard Crouse
Metro | Canada

Woman in Gold is director Simon Curtis's followup to the Academy Award-nominated *My Week with Marilyn*, which chronicled seven days in the life of Marilyn Monroe during production of the 1957 film *The Prince and the Showgirl*.

In the new movie, Dame Helen

Mirren plays Maria Altmann, a Jewish refugee of the Second World War who flees Austria to settle in the U.S. She enlists the help of young lawyer Randol Schoenberg (Ryan Reynolds) to help reclaim five Gustav Klimt paintings, including one of her aunt, *Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I*.

Looted by Nazis at the outset of the war, the iconic artwork (referred to as the "Mona Lisa of Austria" in the film) hung in the state gallery for five decades. The case wound its way for years through the courts, until it reached the U.S. Supreme Court and then binding arbitration by a panel of three Austrian judges.

He spent a week with Marilyn, the director teases, but years with Maria.

The story first grabbed his interest when he saw a BBC Imagine documentary on her struggle to reclaim artworks that were rightfully hers. He was taken with the character of Maria, who reminded him of many people he grew up with. "I'm from a Jewish family in London," he says, "and I met many women like Maria."

The resulting film plays like two thrillers — the present day legal story and the backstory — told in flashbacks.

One is a procedural, one a horrifying look at the rise of Nazism in Austria, mixed and matched to form a whole. But *Woman in Gold* isn't strictly a movie about a lawsuit or Holocaust horror, it's really a story about the power of memories and heritage.

Curtis says the casting of Mirren was crucial to the success of the film. He needed an actress of a certain age and one who could portray the emotional range of a woman trapped between her real world pain and the memories she holds dear. On Mirren's face is the story, a vision of loss and anguish, but tempered with a tale of determination.

Curtis first met Mirren almost thirty years ago when he assistant directed a production of *Measure for Measure* in 1979. He remembers her as a formidable force and jokingly calls himself "her tea boy."

"I sat with her in the kitchen and helped her answer fan mail and boiled water for tea," he says. "I did essentially the same job on this film."

SAM HEUGHAN

From Batman to the 18th-century

Sam Heughan has become something of a heartthrob playing a fiery 18th-century Scottish warrior married to a Second World War combat nurse who mysteriously transported back in time in the sci-fi romance *Outlander*.

The show, which returns to Showcase for its midseason premiere on Sunday, has developed a rabid fan base with as many as five million Americans tuning in to catch Heughan and his kilt each week. The British Film Institute even reports that the show's popularity has inspired a tourism boom in Scotland.

On Heughan's recent trip to Toronto, fans lined up in the cold to catch a glimpse of the handsome 6 feet 2½ inches tall actor. "They were there," he says, "waving flags and supporting us. It is fantastic."

He says "that sort of thing is very new to me," although a recent trip to Comic Con was met with much excitement and on a stopover in Los Angeles, he was recognized for his work on the show.

"On the whole, it is very genuine," he says, "very friendly. They

just sort of sidle up next to you and whisper, 'I really enjoy the show. I'm a big fan,' and they'll leave you to do your thing."

Heughan trained at the prestigious Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama but says before signing on to do *Outlander* he was a "jobbing actor. I had done a lot of theatre and period drama in the U.K." He cites one strange acting gig in particular, playing the lead role in a touring production of *Batman Live*, as a real confidence builder.

"A terrific job," he says. "So different than anything I had done before — doing acrobatics, flying across stadiums over thousands of people. It did give me a lot of confidence to stand in front of twenty- or thirty-thousand people and have to fight 30 henchmen every night."

"I'll always remember the first entrance as Batman, flying 200 feet across the auditorium with people below and you're looking down at them thinking, 'This is something else.' They don't teach that in acting school."

RICHARD CROUSE/METRO



Sam Heughan stars in the sci-fi romance *Outlander*. CONTRIBUTED

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INTERVIEW

It Follows director places viewer in the line of fright

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

The indie horror *It Follows*, like *The Babadook* last year, is being hailed as a genuinely terrifying antidote to bigger-budgeted counterparts, like *Ouija*. But its writer-director, David Robert Mitchell, doesn't come from the genre. His last film was 2010's *The Myth of the American Sleepover*, a tiny, sensitive American Graffiti-type teen movie. *It Follows* at times feels like that movie, with a 19-year-old (Maika Monroe) finding that, after sleeping with the guy she's been seeing, she's been given a strange curse: She will be followed by mysterious creatures visible only to her, who take on the form of regular people and will kill her if they ever catch her.

Let's get this out of the way: Some people have read this along the lines of old slasher movies, in which sex equals death. Your version doesn't seem so cut and dry, though. I hope it goes beyond that. The characters certainly open themselves up to danger through sex. But sex is also a way in which they can be temporarily freed. It's not so simple. To me, it's not literally about sex. It's about life in general, sex being a very im-



Lili Sepe, Olivia Luccardi and Keir Gilchrist in the indie horror movie *It Follows*, now playing in theatres. MONGREL MEDIA

portant part of that. By the act of living we are in danger. We all live with the idea of mortality in the back of our mind, not knowing how long we're here for. At a certain point you become more aware of that. And there is a direct awareness of sexuality and awareness of mortality. Sex and love are ways in which we can push death away, at least for a moment. It's a way of living in the moment.

Jay also doesn't just sleep around. She sleeps with someone she's been seeing. Yeah, she cares about this person. Some people have read it as though that's the first time she's had sex. I don't see that, either. For me it's not about demoniz-



BACKGROUND

When the characters aren't fleeing from a mysterious pursuer, the film hangs with them and it has a quiet, laid-back vibe. "When I wrote this I had just done *Myth*," says Mitchell. "I thought it'd be fun to take that idea and imagine a character from that world as a little bit older, then just throw them into a nightmare. The film is very much about

ing sex, or some kind of puritanical statement, as some people have said. Everyone has the right to think what they want about

waiting — about waiting for something to happen. It's about anxiety, about the middle spaces, where these characters are interacting in a normal way that could come straight from the other film, then they're waiting for something horrific to happen. The moments of attack are very different, but the moments in between are very similar."

the film; I don't know how much my intentions matter. But it is interesting to see different reads on the movie. Horror films tend

to create all kinds of responses.

It's a genre that, more so than respectable fare, really allows for unique and even transgressive ideas.

Audiences for horror films tend to allow filmmakers to be a little more experimental. You can get away with more than with other genres. You can do things that would irritate an audience or some people within other genres. Horror audiences are very open-minded.

Speaking of which, this film will soon wind up on VOD. But it seems the ideal way to experience it is in a theatre.

That's the way to see it. So much of the film is in wide-

angle shots. It's not relying on close-ups. Close-ups in films that are constructed around tighter shots play well when watched on an iPad or something. You can watch this that way, but to really feel the film, you need a large screen. It's supposed to be immersive. We tried to shoot it in a way that you actually feel physically placed within these environments. You can look in the distance, you can look at the edges of frames. You're scanning the frames, looking out for the characters, looking out for yourself. It's supposed to be experiential. You're not going to get that as much if you watch it on a small screen. And the music — you want the sound cranked up.



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Now playing



ACTION Furious 7

Director: James Wan
Starring: Vin Diesel,
Paul Walker

Continuing the global exploits in the unstoppable franchise built on speed, Vin Diesel, Paul Walker and Dwayne Johnson lead the returning cast of Fast & Furious 7.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **86%** **Audience:** **+98%**



DRAMA Woman in Gold

Director: Simon Curtis
Starring: Helen Mirren,
Ryan Reynolds

The remarkable true story of one woman's journey to reclaim her heritage. Sixty years after she fled Vienna during the Second World War, an elderly Jewish woman starts her journey to retrieve family possessions seized by the Nazis.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **40%** **Audience:** **+90%**



DRAMA-COMEDY Danny Collins

Director: Dan Fogelman
Starring: Al Pacino,
Annette Bening

Al Pacino stars as aging 1970s rocker Danny Collins, who can't give up his hard-living ways. But when his manager uncovers a 40-year-old undelivered letter written to him by John Lennon, he decides to change course and embarks on a heartfelt journey to begin a second act.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **72%** **Audience:** **70%**



DRAMA Boychoir

Director: François Girard
Starring: Dustin Hoffman

Stet, a troubled and angry 11-year-old orphan from a small town, ends up at a boys choir after the death of his single mom. Completely out of his element, he finds himself in a battle of wills with a demanding choir master who recognizes a unique talent in this young boy.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **69%** **Audience:** **71%**



ANIMATED Home

Director: Tim Johnson
Starring: Jim Parsons,
Rihanna

When Oh, a lovable misfit from another planet, lands on Earth and finds himself on the run, he forms an unlikely friendship with a girl named Tip who is on a quest of her own. Through a series of adventures with Tip, Oh comes to understand that being different and making mistakes is all part of being human.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **40%** **Audience:** **69%**



COMEDY Get Hard

Director: Etan Cohen
Starring: Will Ferrell,
Kevin Hart

Will Ferrell and Kevin Hart headline this Warner Bros. comedy about a wrongfully convicted investment banker who prepares for prison life with the help of the man who washes his car. Etan Cohen directs, with Ian Roberts and Jay Martel handling screenwriting duties.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **28%** **Audience:** **+95%**

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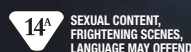
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— LOS ANGELES TIMES



IT FOLLOWS

WRITTEN BY DAVID ROBERT MITCHELL



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Putting the fun in Easter

Make the most of your Easter celebration by preparing a brunch table with a few easy, handcrafted items. "A couple of special touches will make it feel like a more special gathering," says Taryn Mohrman, senior lifestyle editor at Woman's Day magazine. She recommends keeping things simple, adding only one or two decorative items to the table. And pick projects you'll enjoy. THE ASSOCIATE PRESS

EGG-CITING CHICKS

Edibles

Woman's Day suggests turning deviled eggs into cute chicks; a plateful helps decorate the buffet table.

Cut off the top third of each hard-boiled egg, removing the yolk from the bottom two-thirds and following one's own deviled-eggs recipe.

To assemble the chicks: Slice a thin piece from the bottom of each egg white to help it

stand upright.

Then, using a 1-inch cookie scoop, scoop the yolk mixture into each egg white and cap it with the reserved top third of the egg, like a hat. Use thinly sliced carrots as feet, wings and beak. Use capers for eyes, and herbs for beards, hair and eye-brows — gently placing each in the yolk mixture to make silly faces.

"I think (children will) have a lot of fun giving each egg their own personality," says Mohrman.



WHEAT GRASS

Centrepieces

One suggestion in the April issue of Woman's Day is that kids place wheat grass (bought at a garden centre) in a shallow dish and decorate it with spring flowers, such as tulips and grape hyacinth, along with dyed Easter eggs.

The magazine used several medium-size, square vessels from The Container Store, and ensured that the cut flowers would last longer by sticking each stem in a water pick, or little tube (available at florists or crafts stores).

"The fresh-cut flowers look like they are growing out of the grass," says Mohrman. "I just love that it's a shrunken-down garden."



GOLDEN HARES

Place cards

For a simple project, Woman's Day suggests painting small rabbit figurines in gold. For each place card, cut two 1 3/4-inch circles from card stock; write a guest's name on one circle. Glue a 4-inch length of thin gold wire between the two circles. Attach the other end of the wire around the rabbit like a collar.

"It looks like a floating balloon, which is playful and cute," says Mohrman. "You can swap out names next year or reuse the same ones."

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Not another rom com

CANADIAN FILM

Character study 10 years in the making

Steve Gow
For Metro

There's a reason why the creators behind *Pretend We're Kissing* are insisting the movie not be labelled a romantic comedy.

"They're considered second-rate films for the most part," said star Dov Tiefenbach during a recent interview to promote the Canadian film. "They're kind of considered date flicks or chick flicks, which is even derogatory — like chicks like bad movies. That's kind of sexist, I think."

In truth, however, the "non-rom com" from Toronto-playwright/actor-turned-director Matt Sadowski is reminiscent of such iconic romance films as *Annie Hall* or the *Before Sunrise* trilogy. A casual character study, it follows the fleeting fireworks that spark between a



Dov Tiefenbach and Tommie-Amber Pirie star in *Pretend We're Kissing*. ERIN SIMKIN/CONTRIBUTED

bashful would-be drummer (Tiefenbach) and a breezy beauty (Tommie-Amber Pirie of TV's *Bitten*) seeking a magical connection.

"It changed a lot," admitted Sadowski of the story he crafted a decade ago while cast as one of the costumed characters on cult-hit superhero show *Power*

Rangers S.P.D. "Not to shake a stick at *Power* Rangers but coming from being a rising writer in the city of Toronto, and then going to do *Power* Rangers, I felt like I needed to do something more artistic. So I was like, I'm going to write a script, and this was the script."

Sadowski couldn't have pre-

dicted it would take 10 years to complete the film (which premiered across Canada on Wednesday) and, in fact, during that lengthy process, he even made another film just to keep motivated: the acclaimed documentary *Don't You Forget About Me*, an ode to legendary filmmaker John Hughes (The

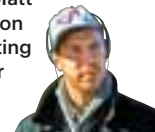
Breakfast Club).

While *Pretend We're Kissing* is certainly a long cry from a Hughes-like '80s teen comedy, it was an experience that taught Sadowski one thing.

"What I took from finding out about (Hughes) was he really just made films that he wanted to make," said Sadowski. "And I've got to say, more so than anything I've ever done, I'm most proud of this, and I hope people like it. But I like it — and that's the most important thing."

"I don't think it tarnishes my name at all. If anything, it's put me in front of an audience and created a bit of a fan base."

Director Matt Sadowski on his time acting in *Power Rangers*



REEL LIFE

Wahlberg to produce movie about Boston marathon bombing

CBS Films says Mark Wahlberg is set to produce *Patriots' Day*, a feature film about the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing based on Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis's first-hand account.

Matt Charman (*Bridge of Spies*) is writing the screenplay, which will span the five-day investigation and hunt to apprehend the suspects: Tamerlan Tsarnaev, who died in a shootout days after the bombing, and his brother Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

The April 2013 attack killed three people and injured more than 260.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mark Wahlberg AFP

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HEALTH

Avril Lavigne says she has Lyme disease



Ned Ehrbar

OK, I officially feel bad about all the Nickelback jokes. Avril Lavigne has announced that she's been suffering from Lyme disease since October.

"I had no idea a bug bite could do this," Lavigne tells

People magazine. "I was bedridden for five months. I felt like I couldn't breathe, I couldn't talk and I couldn't move. I thought I was dying."

But don't worry, Lavigne says she's now "80 per cent" better and has a new outlook on life.

"This was a wake-up call," she says. "I really just want to enjoy life from here on out."

She's been recuperating at her home in Ontario with the help of her mom and her husband, Nickelback front man Chad Kroeger.

The tick-borne disease has symptoms including fever, headache and fatigue.

Singer Joni Mitchell hospitalized in L.A.



Joni Mitchell ALL PHOTOS GETTY

BEL AIR

Folk legend was found unconscious in her home

Joni Mitchell was in intensive care in a Los Angeles-area hospital on Tuesday, according to the Twitter account and website of the folk singer and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer.

"Joni was found unconscious in her home this afternoon," said a statement on the Mitchell website. "She is currently in intensive care undergoing tests and is awake and in good spirits."

It wasn't immediately clear what illness she had.

Los Angeles fire officials said paramedics answered an afternoon 911 call in Bel Air, where Mitchell lives, and took a patient to the hospital. But they could not verify her identity or

give details on her condition.

The 71-year-old singer-songwriter told Billboard magazine in December that she has a rare skin condition, Morgellons disease, which prevents her from performing. Still, she released a career-spanning four-disc box set last year and appeared at Clive Davis' annual pre-Grammy party in February.

Mitchell has received eight Grammy Awards, including a lifetime achievement award in 2002. She was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997.

Mitchell, who was born in Fort Macleod, Alta., is also a member of the Canadian Music Hall of Fame and the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame.

She started her career as a street musician before moving to Southern California, where she became part of the flourishing folk scene in the late 1960s.

Mitchell has released 19 original albums, the most recent in 2007. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE DAILY SHOW

Aasif Mandvi stands up for Trevor Noah

Longtime Daily Show correspondent Aasif Mandvi says he doesn't understand the recent fuss about future host Trevor Noah's Twitter account.

"I think it's much ado about nothing," said Mandvi while speaking as part of the LinkedIn Discussion Series at the company's New York headquarters on Tuesday. "The guy made some off-colour, irresponsible tweets, but he was trying to be funny."

As for fans of the show who were hoping that Mandvi himself would be tapped to fill Jon Stewart's shoes: The 49-year-old actor insists that he never wanted the job.

"I think they wanted someone who was a new fresh face," he added. "I don't know Trevor, I've met him a couple of times and he seems like a nice guy. I trust Jon Stewart and Jon seems to want him."

LAKSHMI GANDHI/METRO IN NYC

METHOD ACTING

Jamie Dornan walks the stalk

Fifty Shades of Grey star Jamie Dornan is quickly learning that there are some things better kept to yourself during interviews. Like the fact that while prepping for his role as a creepy serial killer in BBC series The Fall, he got some hands-on experience in stalking. "The first (season), I did a couple of things to try and get inside (my character's head)," he tells the Los Angeles Times.

"I did ... can I get arrested for this? Hold on ... this is a really bad reveal — I like, followed a

woman off the train one day to see what it felt like to pursue someone like that. I really kept my distance and I was aware, it was kind of half-hearted, 'cause I was going like, 'If she turns around, is she going to notice?' She got off a few stops earlier than I was planning so I was like, 'All right, I'll have to commit to this here.'"

He then followed her several blocks, which is certainly not creepy at all, right?

"It felt kind of, like, exciting in a really, like, sort of dirty way

and I'm sort of not proud of myself. But I do honestly think I learned something from it, you know, just 'cause I obviously have never done anything like that in my life, so it was intriguing and interesting to sort of enter that process of like, what are you following her for and what are you trying to find out?"

So would you mind terribly if you turned around to discover Jamie Dornan was following you home? I mean, for purely professional reasons?

NED EHRRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD



Jamie Dornan



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Mirroring the neighbourhood

CONDOMINIUMS

Unique designs pay homage to history of building sites

Megan Haynes
For Metro

When Roland Rom Colthoff, director of Toronto-based architecture firm RAW Design, was asked to work on a midrise condo near Halifax's port, his team noticed the neighbourhood was replete with shipping containers. So they incorporated the containers into the building's design.

Shipping containers

The shipping containers (visible on the side of the building) celebrate, rather than conceal, the industrial heritage of the neighbourhood, he says.

"We didn't want to say 'Oh, don't worry, it's industrial, but you'll have a lovely house,'" he adds. "We wanted to say, 'It's industrial and you'll have a great place to live and show off your pride as a Haligonian.' (Condo buyers) can say 'I'm part of the port. I'm part of the community.'" The 142-unit building, expected March 2016, has sold out.

Southport is one of a number of new or recently built midrise buildings across Canada that pay homage in a unique way to the space on which they have been built, in a bid by architects and developers to create a sense of community among residents, and stand out in a crowded market.

Just look at Vancouver's King Edward Green development, which incorporates the famed Hobbit House (a picturesque fairy-tale house built in 1942) into its two-building midrise. Developer David Mooney says when a site has so much character,

“It shows we care about history and our heritage”

David Mooney



The Stradbrook in Winnipeg is wrapped in glass shingles to reflect the surrounding wood-shingled houses. CONTRIBUTED



Shipping containers are incorporated in the design of the Southport midrise condo in Halifax. CONTRIBUTED



All units of the Tree House in Toronto face the courtyard to encourage interaction with neighbours. CONTRIBUTED

builders simply “have to find a way to preserve it. It shows we care about history and our heritage.”

Glass shingles

That's not to say a condo has to conform to its historical roots to be a contextual fit for a neighbourhood, says Sasa Radulovic, founding principal and architect at Winnipeg-based 5468796 Architecture. He points to the Stradbrook midrise in Winnipeg that he and his firm worked on. Surrounded by historic wood-shingled houses, Stradbrook is wrapped in glass shingles, paying homage to its neighbours in a modern way. It creates a mirrored panelling, letting the building literally reflect its surroundings. Another 5468796 unit in Toronto features zig-zagged townhouses, meant to mirror the neighbouring suburb that, when viewed from above, looks staggered like a staircase. At the Tree House development (currently in pre-sales), all the units face the courtyard, which is meant to encourage neighbours to interact, he adds.

Condo buildings are not isolated, adds Tudor Radulescu, architect and principal at Montreal-based Kanva. Buildings (and their inhabitants) are part of neighbourhoods, and they have to be woven into the urban fabric, rather than work against it.

Perforated steel

He points to a project completed in 2012 in a former Montreal industrial neighbourhood, which used to specialize in steel manufacturing. To pay tribute to that heritage, and to the two-storey building's recent life as a movie and TV studio, the architects wrapped the four-storey extension in perforated steel, to give the building the illusion of a curtain.

Effectively, it fits and it's nice to live somewhere that fits, he says.

"People are realizing they can buy a condo and it doesn't have to be an anonymous 40-storey tower where you (only meet neighbours) when taking the elevator," says Rom Colthoff. "They don't want to buy square footage. They want to buy into a community."

What they're asking

This week we look at pre-construction and new two-bedroom condominium suites in and around the downtown core. Buying a new condo from floor plans is a great way to save money and realize a profit down the road.

Duncan McAllister FOR METRO



CALGARY

\$492,900

Smith is a boutique, 129-unit highrise and townhome development by Grosvenor. Designed by award-winning BKDI Architects, the 18-storey building is located in the desirable Calgary Beltline neighbourhood, near 17th Avenue, Calgary's retail and entertainment district. The G Plan starts at \$492,900 for a two-bedroom, 855-square-foot suite that includes one parking stall. Contact the presentation centre at 403-264-1703.



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Glasshouse Lofts is a new condo at 311 Hargrave St., in the SHED (sports, hospitality and entertainment district) of downtown Winnipeg. Designed by Stantec Architects, the condo is currently under construction and occupancy is slated for spring 2016. With 21 storeys and 200 loft-style suites, the building has a selection of two-bedroom layouts available, with a 626-square-foot floor plan that starts at \$269,900. Contact the sales centre at 204-282-9658.

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DESIGN CENTRE

Karl Lohnes



The time for spring cleaning and organizing is upon us. Like me, you may have accumulated more than you thought over the long winter months. Here are some fashionable and useful ways to store treasures in style.



In the clear

So many ugly packages to deal with. Empty their contents into an airtight container and keep everything in plain, and tidy, view. OXO Pop containers, from \$11, CrateAnd-Barrel.com



Maximize your closet

Keep it organized in those condo dens with an instant closet organizer. Nebula by Bestar 80" storage cabinet, \$920, Walmart.ca



Clothes keeper

Add some style to that dirty laundry. Portman faux leather laundry hamper, \$99, UrbanBarn.com

Multi-purpose surface

Rest your feet, eat your dinner and use the storage. Arlington lift-top storage ottoman, \$169, BedBathAnd-Beyond.ca



A natural touch

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Under the mattress

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"We're a one-stop shop," says owner Carla Hrycyna. "If you're skilled at landscaping and simply need some striking accessories to create the atmosphere you're looking for, we have them on hand. Or, if you need an expert's touch, we can bring your design to life."

Hrycyna says it's worth the effort to create a design connection between your home's interior and its outdoor surroundings.

"Creating an environment that provides a rich, relaxing living space both indoors and out really enriches peoples' lives. Our job is to help you take your home's interior character and extend it outdoors, where patios, gardens and beautifully landscaped surroundings help you rejuvenate in a relaxing, refreshing environment."

By tapping into St. Mary's expertise — which has been bringing home exteriors to life for 30 years — you will be able to create a home that's a joy to live in, both inside and out.

"It's similar to building a cake," Hrycyna says. "We'll identify the ingredients that will



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

tie in best with the theme of your home, and will then work with you to bring all those ingredients together into a backyard living room filled with all the themes you love."

How do you create a backyard retreat? By complementing lush landscaping and effortlessly flowing pathways with accessories to create a backyard living room, Hrycyna says.

"Accessorizing with things like planters, bird baths, fountains, garden angels, pergolas — even rock walls — puts the perfect finishing touches on a backyard. Picking the right accessories can take it from good to great."

Accessories at St. Mary's Nursery & Garden Centre range from pottery and containers (concrete, fibreglass, metal, ceramic and poly)

to garden pieces, fountains, even miniature ponds, all of which can turn your backyard into the relaxing retreat of which you have always dreamed.

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Pavelec still isn't the Jets' solution in the goal crease



THE HOCKEY NEWS

Ronnie Shuker
FOR METRO

Well, it was nice while it lasted. But the good thing about the Winnipeg Jets' sudden turn for the worse is that they won't be fooled into thinking Ondrej Pavelec could be their No. 1 goaltender next season. At least let's hope that's the case.

Pavelec's one-month renaissance was just that — one measly month of great goaltending in what has been another mediocre season for him. No surprise here. Most goalies get hot at some points in the season. The problem is that those stretches have been few and far between for Pavelec. The rest of the time he's been decidedly average, at best, over his entire NHL career.

Should the Jets finally choose to cut bait with Pavelec, there will be options aplenty for them to explore

in the summer — Antti Niemi, Michal Neuvirth and Jonas Gustavsson head a long list of unrestricted free agents — but none would be a significant upgrade. Instead, the Jets should swing for the fences and set their sights on Devan Dubnyk of the Minnesota.

Dubnyk is second in both goals-against average and save percentage (2.05 GAA, .930 SP), behind only the Montreal Canadiens' Carey Price, and he's having such a good season that he could garner Hart Trophy consideration. He's big (6-6, 210) and is a Prairie boy (born in Saskatchewan), so he might be more open to a move north than most free agents.

Of course, there's always a catch — two of them, actually. Dubnyk will get a hefty raise, and he comes with a risk. He's sure to at least quadruple his current salary of \$800,000 but could command over \$5 million. He is also on his fifth organization in less than two years and was so brutal last season, even the goaltending wasteland that is the Edmonton Oilers didn't want him.

Still, the money and risk are worth it. The Wild are up against the cap, so the Jets could outbid them if the wallet watchers up top give GM Kevin Cheveldayoff more



While the Jets' Ondrej Pavelec has shown flashes of brilliance, Hockey News columnist Ronnie Shuker says the goalie has been average over his NHL career. MARIANNE HELM/GETTY IMAGES

money to work with. And before his disastrous 2013-14 season, Dubnyk had improved every season in the NHL, posting decent numbers on some outstandingly

bad Oilers teams, so it's safer to say last season was the exception, not the rule, in his career.

Either way, even if they don't make the playoffs,

the Jets are on the cusp of something special that could come as early as next season. All they need is a legitimate No. 1 goalie to make it happen.

IN BRIEF

Simmons bounces back with a pair of victories

Canada's Pat Simmons rebounded from his first loss at the world men's curling championship by winning a pair of games Wednesday, locking up a spot in the Page playoff 1-2 game in the process.

Simmons beat Switzerland's Marc Pfister 8-4 in the morning draw and topped Scotland's Ewan MacDonald 7-1 in the evening.

The Canadian team will take an 8-1 record into the final day of round-robin play Thursday.

Thomas Ulsrud of Norway is also 8-1. The defending champion beat Italy 9-2 and Czech Republic 12-5 on Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Potential Blue Bomber transitions back to football

Jordan Reaves has reunited with his first love.

Reaves is a football player again after concentrating solely on basketball for the past 10 years. Despite the absence, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers put Reaves, 25, on their negotiation list.

Reaves validated that move by finishing second among receivers in the bench press (19 reps of 225 pounds), 40-yard dash (4.69 seconds) and broad jump (10 feet, one-half inch) at a CFL regional combine last month in Edmonton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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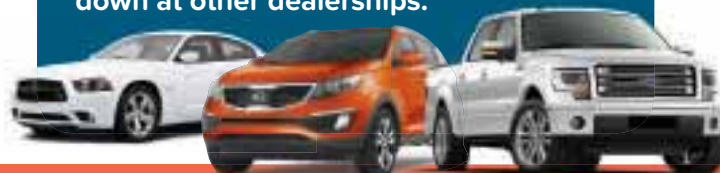
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VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew
'Hustler'
Paterson



Five games in eight days to end the regular season, with a playoff berth on the line:

If you told a Winnipeg Jets fan in October that the team would enter the final week of the season in this situation — with 90 points — he would have taken it in a heartbeat.

But unlike last year, when the Dallas Stars qualified for the playoffs with 91 points in the West, it will likely take anywhere from 96 to even 98 points to make the postseason this year.

All season the Jets have battled adversity, mostly due to a couple of terrible injury spells. As the team prepares for the final five games, it will have to work through more adversity — although this time it is not due to injury, but of the self-inflicted kind.

After two close losses on home ice this week to Chicago and the New York Rangers, Winnipeg faces Van-



Mark Scheifele hugs Dustin Byfuglien after his second goal against the Chicago Blackhawks. If Big Buff is suspended today, will the team's playoff hopes be suspended as well? THE CANADIAN PRESS

couver on Saturday to begin a do or die week. The team will likely be without argu-

ably their best player, Dustin Byfuglien, for the Canucks game and possibly longer.

A frustrated Byfuglien cross-checked JT Miller of the Rangers in the back of the



Violent, deliberate, could have broken his neck. It was one of the most vicious cross-checks I've seen this year.

New York head coach Alain Vigneault on Dustin Byfuglien's cross-check on JT Miller

neck Tuesday night and will hear from NHL player safety later today on a possible suspension.

Byfuglien has never been suspended before in his NHL career, but considering the violent nature of the offence the question is less, "Will he be suspended?" and more, "for how long?"

How will the Jets respond to this latest adversity beginning Saturday afternoon with their season on the line?

There is no question about the effort the team puts out every night, but it's all about results now: Two points at a time; that's it.

It will certainly be painful for Byfuglien to have to watch his teammates from the press box during any suspension.

He is the alpha male of the team in the dressing room and on the ice, despite the

lack of a letter on his jersey. All eyes will be on his Jets teammates to see if they can rally around him and each other, and scrap out enough points in his absence to stay in the race.

The bottom line for the Jets is this — the Calgary Flames, neck and neck in the race with the Jets, come to the MTS Centre on Apr. 11 for the final game of the regular season.

The possibility exists for a win-and-you're-in Game 82. With or without Byfuglien, the Jets need to garner enough points over the next four games to make that game meaningful.

Lifelong Winnipegger and 24/7 sports junkie, Andrew "Hustler" Paterson hosts Hustler & Lawless and The Warmup weekdays from 3-6 p.m. on TSN1290 radio.

Reach him on Twitter @hustlerama.

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Today's horoscope

The stars have aligned.
It's time to put your doubts
behind you and get the
vehicle you deserve.

+ OMG: MAN DIES AFTER DRINKING A GALLON OF ICED TEA

Doctors traced an Arkansas man's kidney failure to an unusual cause: his habit of drinking a gallon of iced tea each day.

They ruled out several potential causes before stumbling on a reason for the 56-year-old man's kidney problems. He said he drank about 16 eight-ounce cups of iced tea every day. Black tea has a chemical known to cause kidney stones or even kidney failure in excessive amounts.

"It was the only reasonable explanation," said Dr. Umbar Ghaffar of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. She and two other doctors describe the case in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

The unidentified man went to the hospital last May with nausea, weakness, fatigue and body aches. Doctors determined his kidneys were badly clogged and inflamed by the food chemical called

oxalate. The man is on dialysis, perhaps for the rest of his life, Ghaffar said.

At 16 cups of iced black tea each day, he was taking in three to 10 times more oxalate than the average American, Ghaffar and her colleagues reported. Federal studies suggest that, on average, U.S. adults drink a total of 10 or 11 cups of beverages per day — that's water, coffee and all other liquids combined.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today's horoscope

The planets have moved in
your favour. Get a second
opinion and find a safe and
reliable vehicle that fits
your budget.

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
The Sun's alliance with Jupiter today means you will come up with a solution to a problem before others even realize that a problem exists. It's an advantage, personally and professionally.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will say the right thing in the right way today, especially when dealing with people in positions of power. However, you don't need to boast, they will learn over the next few days.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will find it easy to convince others to agree with you over the next 24 hours, not because you are forceful but because you know what words push what buttons for maximum effect.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Something unexpected will happen today, something that comes at you out of the blue. It may be annoying if it disrupts your plans but you won't be negative about it for long.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You don't need to justify what you believe or what you are doing to anyone. Fortunately, with your ruler the Sun linked to Jupiter in your sign today no one will question you. They simply won't dare!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Don't wait for others to make decisions for you: make them yourself and, if anyone disapproves, so what? Anyone who thinks you can be intimidated is in for the shock of their lives.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may have no idea how you reach certain conclusions today but don't doubt them for a moment. Your mind is open on a much higher level now, insights are to be expected.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If ever there was a right time to try something new that time is now. You are more adventurous than a lot of people give you credit for. Be bold.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Today's link between the Sun and your ruling planet Jupiter means you can get away with almost anything. No, that is not an invitation to break the law but you can push the boundaries a bit.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

The more others say you should be careful the more determined you will be to take some kind of risk. Are you right or are they right? You will have fun finding out.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your confidence in your own abilities today will be on a different level than everyone else. The Sun's link with Jupiter means you no longer know what the word "cannot" means. You can do anything.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
If you are finding it hard to make up your mind about something then don't force it. Others may be pushing you to make a quick decision but only because it benefits them in some way

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

						6	8	
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	4		1			3		
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		8			3		5	
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RECIPE Portobello Pitas with Red Bell Pepper Hummus and Goat Cheese



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman



Ready in

Prep time: 12

Cook time: 12

Directions

1. To make the filling: On either a barbecue or a non-stick grill pan sprayed with cooking spray, grill the mushrooms over medium-high heat for 12 minutes, turning halfway or until tender and grill marked. Spray the mushrooms with vegetable spray if they look dry. Slice into thick slices.

2. To make the hummus: In the bowl of a small food processor, combine the chickpeas, roasted red pepper, tahini, lemon juice, olive oil, water, garlic and chili sauce. Purée until smooth. Garnish with parsley.

3. Spread the inside of the pita halves with the hummus. Place half of the mushroom slices in

each pita, sprinkle with cheese, and garnish with lettuce, tomatoes and onions.

Ingredients

• 3 large portobello mushroom caps, wiped (stems removed)

½ cup Red Bell Pepper Hummus:

• ½ cup canned chickpeas, drained and rinsed

• ¼ cup roasted red pepper (about ½ small roasted red pepper)

• 1½ tbsp tahini (sesame seed paste)

• 1 tbsp lemon juice

• 1 tbsp olive oil

• 2 tsp water

• ½ tsp finely chopped garlic

• ½ tsp hot chili sauce

• 2 tbsp chopped parsley for garnish

Wraps:

• 3 medium-sized pitas, sliced in half

• ½ cup crumbled goat cheese (2 oz)

• lettuce

• sliced tomatoes

• sliced onions

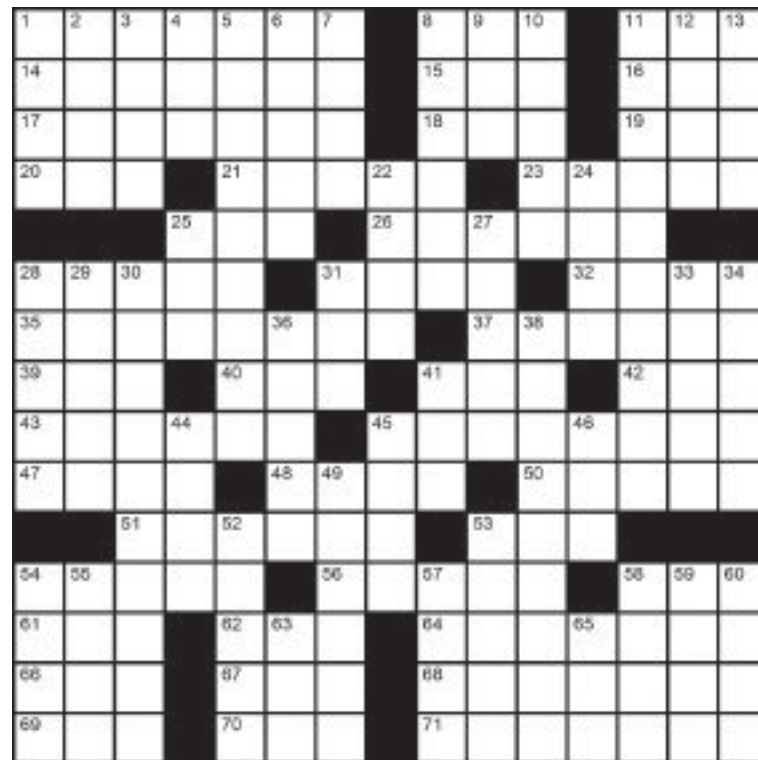
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ANSWERS ONLINE
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ACROSS

1. Ukrainian Easter egg (More at #30-Down!)
8. Texter's polite abbr.
11. Company abbr.
14. Ticklish music keys
15. Fair-hiring letters
16. Lionel Richie's "You _"
17. Measure of quality/excellence
18. South: French
19. "Glee" character
20. 'Meth' suffix
21. Actress Sonia
23. Enroll
25. Guileful
26. Earthy pigments
28. Fleetwood Mac's Christine
31. South Dakota dam
32. Town, colloquially
35. Restaurant kitchen VIP's uniform part: 2 wds.
37. Unclose again
39. _ and Magog (Hostile nations in Revelation)
40. 'To hear' in Spanish
41. Little: French
42. Ms. Zadora
43. Wayward
45. Eggs one day, perhaps
47. Paradise
48. Company dept. heads
50. Abrasive
51. Hangout for grapes
53. Ms. Wray
54. Guitarist



Mr. Richards
56. Certain ISP user
58. Grand _ (Wine designation)
61. Cobbler's tool
62. Gossip columnist Ms. Smith
64. Baltimore _ (MLB team)
66. Address book no.

67. Yalie
68. Painted-ceiling Chapel for Michelangelo
69. Poet's 'before'
70. Riddle-me-_
71. Body decorations

DOWN

1. Type size
2. Hockey great

Mr. Cournoyer
3. Fish kind
4. Jackie O's hubby
5. Consumes food, bunny rabbit style: 2 wds.
6. "Scandal" star
Ms. Washington
7. On the Pacific
8. Passover
9. Mr. Reed

10. As per #8-Down... when The Four Questions are asked
11. The _ _ (Late-1490s masterpiece by Leonardo da Vinci)
12. Unfeigned
13. Red _ , Alberta
22. Capricorn animal

24. Biblical mount
25. Wife of Thor
27. Whitesnake's " _ _ Go Again"
28. Janis Joplin's "Me and Bobby _"
29. Something strummed
30. Alberta town which is home to the largest #1-Across in the world
31. Paddle
33. Horserider's hold-ees
34. Grind teeth
36. Pat Benatar's " _ _ with Your Best Shot" (Trivial! It was written by Canadian musician Eddie Schwartz)
38. Holy Communion
41. Acidity measures, commonly
44. Have _ _ to pick
45. Prefix that's 'Freezing'
46. Round Table knight
49. Santa Maria delle _ (Milan church where the mural at #11-Down is located)
52. Edmonton Oiler, e.g.
53. Hair dye brand
54. Ms. Hudson
55. Spouted water container
57. Confused
58. Muse of history
59. Vegas alternative
60. Functions
63. Island: French
65. Baseball's Mel

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Money raised from the sale of daffodil pins allows the Cancer Society to work for change in the health care system so it is more responsive to the needs of cancer patients. It also allows the Society to fund the support programs that help Manitoba families, and world-class research that saves lives. In the 1940's when we first started funding research, survival of cancer was about 25%. Today, survival is at 63%.

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cancer.ca

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